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Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Letter dated 13 November 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Moldova to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the declaration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova issued at Chisinau on 11 November 2006, on the referendum in Georgia's breakaway South Ossetia, which was held on 12 November 2006 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 27.

(*Signed*) Alexei **Tulbure**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 13 November 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Moldova to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Declaration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration on the referendum in Georgia's breakaway South Ossetia, issued at Chisinau on 11 November 2006

The self-proclaimed administration of Georgia's South Ossetia region is going to hold a "referendum" on the region's future on 12 November 2006. We ascertain that this unilateral and counterproductive action of the South Ossetian regime will only trigger additional political tensions.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration believes that both the pseudo-referendum conducted in Moldova's breakaway Transnistrian Region on 17 September 2006 and the forthcoming illegal referendum in South Ossetia are coordinated actions aimed at undermining the international community's efforts to settle the conflicts in the ex-Soviet area.

In this context, the Moldovan authorities consider the 12 November 2006 "referendum" as a destabilizing step and an express display of separatism, which should be firmly condemned by the international community. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration expresses solidarity with the stance of the European Union and the United States of America on the anti-constitutional character of the so-called "referendum", and calls upon other States and international organizations to condemn this action. Moldova does not recognize the so-called presidential election in South Ossetia either, which is due to be held on the same day.

The Moldovan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration believes that the conflicts on Georgia's territory can be settled only through a constructive dialogue, by observing Georgia's sovereignty and territorial integrity.